

ABSTRACT

Image processing system and method automatically process a series of input images without operator's intervention. Each of the input images is automatically analyzed, classified, enhanced and/or compressed. Individual image enhancement is applied to each of the input images independently. A plurality of enhanced and/or compressed images can be outputted without re-analyzing and re-classifying the input image. The processed images have a high compression to quality ratio, produce images having quality and visual characteristics as viewed by a human including image contrast, brightness, and sharpness as compared with the input image, while capable of reducing the amount of memory required for storing the output images. The image processing system and method can process the images in real time on-the-fly or in a batch mode, and can operate in a wire and/or wireless transmission environment or embedded in a hardware, firmware, or software which is embedded in another system or application. The system can be a stand-alone system or a server/client network system, etc.